

Veterans Service Program Newsletter



Representative in St. Louis











September

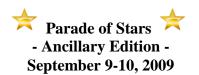
WELCOME ABOARD

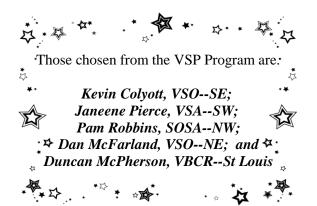
To the New Service Officer **Southeast Region:**Tony Pridgeon -St. James

Promotions / Changes

Doug Meyer - Director of Veteran Service Program Don Brown - St. Louis Regional Supervisor Ralph Pismany - Veterans Benefits Claims

No one has been hired yet for the Hillsboro VSO position





Congratulations on being chosen for the Parade of Stars recognition event! The theme this year is "Magical Customer Service – Yes We Can". Following dinner our "Magical Stars" will be recognized. Our hope is that you truly feel appreciated by your participation in this recognition event. Missouri Veterans Commission couldn't honor and serve our Veterans without you!

Information from Bob Harvey

PENSION INFO

If a veteran or widow shows an increase in net worth on the annual EVR for more than one year, there is a good chance that VA will terminate pension payment. The purpose of VA pension is help to low income claimants. The purpose is not to maintain or increase an estate for survivors, or for any other reason. If recipients of live or death pension, or parent's DIC, live frugally and manage to increase their assets, they run the risk of having payments terminated.

There is a catch 22 in VA pension adjustments when a claimant reports being in a Medicaid bed and requests the \$90.00 rate. If it takes VA several months to adjudicate the claim, they will reduce the pension effective date of last payment, possibly/likely to cause termination of the Medicaid. The latest case involved a report to the VA in March 2009, not adjudicated until August 2009, and an effective date of 08/01/09 assigned for the reduced rate. The VA suggests that the claimant who has this problem, contact the nursing home for assistance. The VA cannot fix the rate adjustment concerning Medicaid.

MEDICAL INFO

A question has arisen what to do with X-rays brought in by a veteran to support a claim. DO NOT SEND THEM TO VARO. THEY DO NOT HAVE STAFF OR EQUIPMENT TO READ/INTERPRET THE X-RAY FILMS. A report of the findings should be sent if available. If taken by a private medical provider, likely a 21-4142 would be in order. If taken at a VA facility, the date and location is all that VA will need to get a report



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EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

<u>Central Office/Veterans Services</u> <u>Program/Cemeteries Program.</u>

Michael Scott Moore, Maintenance Worker I for the Missouri Veterans Cemetery-Higginsville, has been selected as the August, 2009 Employee of the Month for the Central Office/Veterans Services Program/Cemeteries Program.

Missouri Veteran Homes

Tina "Shelly" Blair, Office Support Assistant (Nursing Scheduler) for the St. James Veterans Home was selected as the August 2009 Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month.

Congratulations to both!



SEPTEMBER Birthdays

Carol Janeen Pierce	9/2
Lawanda Swearengin	9/3
Virgie Buchanan	9/10
Charles "Sid" Smith	9/17
Joe Dailey	9/20
Charles "Mike" Schmidt	9/20
Barbara Welch	9/22
Jerilyn Cornelius	9/25
Ken Gore	9/25
Robert Bone	9/29

Happy Birthday!!!